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IN THE CLAIMS:

1.-40. (Cancelled)

41. (New) A method of setting a transmitting condition of data of a first appliance in a home network system for controlling a plurality of appliances including the first appliance and a second appliance linked with the first appliance, the method comprising:

transmitting by the first appliance first demand information for querying information about a transmitting condition of data indicating an operational status of the second appliance for linked operation of the first appliance and the second appliance;

receiving by the first appliance in response to the first demand information, response information from the second appliance; and

transmitting by the first appliance to the second appliance second demand information to set the transmitting condition of data indicating the operation status of the second appliance for linked operation of the first appliance and the second

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appliance, when the response information does not contain information about the transmitting condition of the data indicating the operational status of the second appliance, or the transmitting condition has not yet been in the second appliance.

42. (New) The method according to claim 41, further comprising receiving by the first appliance data indicating the operational status of the second appliance based on the transmitting condition set in the second appliance.

43. (New) The method according to claim 41, wherein the information about the transmitting condition of the data indicating the operational status of the second appliance comprises first transmission designating information for designating that the transmission of the data be performed upon change in the operational status of the second appliance and second transmission designating information for designating that the transmission of the data be performed in a broadcast manner or to a specific address.

44. (New) The method according to claim 41, wherein the information about the transmitting condition of the data indicating the operational status of the second appliance comprises first transmission designating information for designating that the transmission of the data be performed periodically, an information about an interval for the transmission of the data, and second transmission designating information for designating that the transmission of the data be performed in a broadcast manner or to a specific address.

45. (New) The method according to claim 43, wherein the information about the transmitting condition of the data of the operational status of the second appliance comprises information about a recipient of the data of the operational status of the second appliance.

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46. (New) The method according to claim 44, wherein the information about the transmitting condition of the data of the operational status of the second appliance comprises information about a recipient of the data of the operational status of the second appliance.

47. (New) A first appliance in a home network system for controlling a plurality of appliances including the first appliance and a second appliance linked with the first appliance, the first appliance comprising:

means for transmitting demand information for querying information about a transmitting condition of data indicating an operational status of the second appliance for linked operation of the first appliance and the second appliance;

means for receiving, in response to the demand information, response information from the second appliance; and

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means for demanding the second appliance to set the transmitting condition of the data indicating the operational status of the second appliance for linked operation of the first appliance and the second appliance, when the response information does not contain information about the transmitting condition of the data indicating the operational status of the second appliance, or the transmitting condition has not yet been set in the second appliance.